

# OPTICAL ADD DROP MULTIPLEXER

## CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

The following patents and/or commonly assigned patent applications are hereby incorporated herein by reference:

Patent No.	Filing Date	Issue Date	Title
5,061,049	Sept. 13, 1990	Oct. 29, 1991	Spatial Light Modulator and Method
5,583,688	Dec. 21, 1993	Dec. 10, 1996	Multi-Level Digital Micromirror Device
60/223,366	Aug. 7, 2000		Two Dimensional Blazed Grating
TI-29776	Herewith		Micromirror Optical Switch
TI-29778	Herewith		Micromirror Optical Switch

## FIELD OF THE INVENTION

This invention relates to the field of optical communication systems, more particularly to fiber-optic communications, especially distributed optical communication systems using dense wavelength division multiplexing.

## BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Optical networks use modulated light to enable clear, rapid communication between two points. The bandwidth and efficiency provided by optical communication systems is well known. A single fiber is able to carry a great deal of information over a tremendous distance. Practical communication systems utilize large numbers of fibers networked together to form a communication web that provides at least one path between any two points on the network. Configuring the network to connect any two points requires a large number of switches.

One method of coupling optical fibers converts the optical signal carried by the input fiber to electrical signals and uses the electrical signal modulate another light beam that is

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 3, with the following rewritten paragraph:

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09/966,183 FI-29776	Herewith		Micromirror Optical Switch
09/966,379 IL-29778	Herewith		Micromirror Optical Switch

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 16, line 1, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The micromirror array 414 of Figure 4 includes four discrete mirrors 416 422, 426, 428, 430. Each of the mirrors 422, 426, 428, 430 is operable to tilt clockwise or counterclockwise about an axis perpendicular to the plane of Figure 4. The supporting structure of the mirrors is not shown, but instead each mirror is illustrated as supported on the tip of a triangle to show that each mirror is operable to tilt in either direction. The mirrors of Figure 4 are all fabricated on a single substrate 418.